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LETTER DATED 24 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF ALL STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OR MEMBERS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, CONTAINING A FURTHER APPEAL FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

I have the honour to write to you about the critical financial situation of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Even though the United Nations share is less than a third of the total cost of UNFICYP, receipts continue to fall short of the Organization's share of expenditure. I have repeatedly expressed my concern about this situation, which is a major preoccupation for the Governments of the troop-contributing countries. It is most unfair that these countries should have to absorb such a disproportionate share of the cost of UNFICYP.

As of the end of October 1992, the accumulated shortfall in the UNFICYP Special Account for the mandate period ending 15 December 1992 is estimated at $197.1 million. As regards the current period, only $3.4 million has so far been pledged or received against projected expenditure estimated at some $15.4 million (see annex for details of the current financial situation). As a result, the United Nations has been able to meet the claims of troop-contributing countries only up to December 1981. It is clear that this highly unsatisfactory situation must not be allowed to continue.

The vital peace-keeping role of UNFICYP has been unanimously stressed by the Security Council time and again and its mandate has been repeatedly extended by the Council. The Force continues to make an indispensable contribution to maintaining calm on the island, a condition which is clearly necessary for my ongoing efforts to negotiate a political settlement.

Given the necessary role played by UNFICYP and the precarious financial situation in which it finds itself, I should be most grateful if you would convey to your Government my urgent appeal for a voluntary financial contribution. It is my hope that your Government will find it possible to respond generously so as to enable this important peace-keeping operation of the United Nations to continue.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

Annex

Financing and financial position of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus

In accordance with Security Council resolution 186 (1964) on the establishment of UNFICYP, the costs of the Force are being met by the Governments providing the contingents and by voluntary contributions received for this purpose by the United Nations. In addition, the Government of Cyprus provides, at no cost to the United Nations, areas for the headquarters, camps and other premises of UNFICYP.

Under existing arrangements, the troop-contributing Governments make available to the United Nations troops whose regular pay and allowances and normal matériel expenses they have agreed to pay themselves. In addition, these Governments have agreed to finance at their own expense, as a further contribution to the United Nations operation in Cyprus, certain extra and extraordinary costs that they incur in respect of UNFICYP. Both these cost elements currently amount to some $32.8 million for each six-month period. They represent some 68 per cent of the total cost of maintaining UNFICYP.

The United Nations is responsible for financing entirely through voluntary contributions received from Governments (a) the operational expenditures (i.e. administrative and logistic support) incurred by UNFICYP; and (b) certain extra and extraordinary costs incurred by the troop-contributing Governments for which they seek reimbursement. These expenditures are currently in the order of some $15.4 million for the six-month period ending 15 December 1992.

Since 1964, 78 countries have provided voluntary financial support to UNFICYP totalling approximately $478 million. However, the contributions received for each extension period have consistently fallen short of the amount required to meet the direct costs of the Force for which the United Nations is responsible. As a result, the shortfall in the UNFICYP Special Account as at 31 October 1992 for the six-month period ending 15 December 1992 is estimated at $197.1 million. The status of contributions received for the last four mandate periods is shown in the attached table.

STATUS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNFICYP SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR THE LATEST FOUR MANDATE PERIODS AS AT 31 OCTOBER 1992

(United States dollars equivalent)

Country	Mandate period 59th 16/12/90 15/06/91	60th 16/06/91 15/12/91	61st 16/12/91 15/06/92	62nd 16/06/92 15/12/92
Australia a/	49 995	49 995	-	-
Austria a/, b/	125 000	125 000	-	-
Belgium	152 927	152 926	154 369	154 369
Brunei Darussalam	1 500	-	-	-
Canada a/	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	500 000	500 000	500 000	500 000
Denmark a/, b/	127 016	-	-	-
Finland a/	-	-	-	-
France	88 496	88 496	-	-
Germany	856 360	856 360	905 107	905 107
Greece	400 000	400 000	500 000	500 000
Iceland	6 135	6 134	-	-
Indonesia	-	-	5 000	5 000
Ireland a/	-	-	-	-
Italy	200 000	200 000	200 000	-
Jamaica	250	-	-	-
Japan	200 000	200 000	200 000	200 000
Liechtenstein	500	500	-	-
Luxembourg	4 677	4 677	19 186	19 185
Malta	500	500	456	456
Norway	305 008	305 007	305 000	-
Pakistan	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500
Panama	-	-	250	250
Philippines	211	-	-	-
Spain	86 996	86 997	95 982	95 982
Sweden a/, b/	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	1 063 830	1 063 830	1 048 951	1 048 951
Thailand	500	500	-	-
United Kingdom a/, b/	1 422 418	1 433 978	829 854	-
United States	4 336 000	4 187 000	4 187 000	-
Venezuela	2 491	2 491	2 500	2 500
Zaire	1 000	1 000	-	-
Total	9 933 310	9 666 891	8 955 155	3 433 300

a/ Governments contributing contingents to UNFICYP.

b/ Payment has been made or will be made by means of an offset against amounts due to the Government.